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BRIAN PULIDO'S

# Lady Death™

A  
MEDIEVAL  
TALE



crossgen.com

Brian Pulido

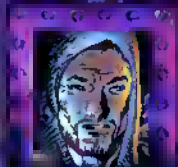
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Ted Pertzborn

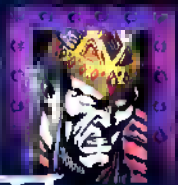
Chris Blythe



Lady  
Death



Wolf



Thorm



Cai

## THUS FAR IN LADY DEATH

Amidst a harrowing battle between warrior knights and the otherworldly Eldritch, a child is conceived. Blood of both clans, she belongs to neither. Years later, the child, Hope, is reborn as Lady Death.

Lady Death returns to Novgorod in pursuit of Henry, her mother's murderer. Her vengeance is interrupted when Wolfram von Bach arrives, chased by his brother Cai and the Scarlet Riders, both in service to the corrupt Archbishop von Krakhauer and charged with capturing and executing the half-Eldritch woman and the knight who protects her.

Their battle is stopped short when an Eldritch hunting party, led by Thorm Gara, lays siege to the village. Lady Death bests Thorm in single combat, but Novgorod is left in ruins...



NOVGOROD.  
1225 AD.

THERE'S  
SO MANY  
WOUNDED...

HOW  
CAN WE  
HELP THEM  
ALL?







WE HELP  
ONE PERSON  
AT A TIME,  
HOPE.  
BRING  
THEM IN  
HERE.

WE MAY  
HAVE WON  
THE BATTLE,  
BUT I FEAR  
NOVGOROD  
IS LOST.

IT  
SMELLS  
AUNTIE  
HOPE.

COVER  
YOUR NOSE,  
ISABELLE.







NO... IT-IT'S NO USE. I CANNOT, BATTLING THE ELDRITCH HAS LEFT ME TOO WEAK.

THOSE POOR PEOPLE...

THEY WILL SURELY BURN!

STAY BACK, CAI.



HE'S RIGHT--

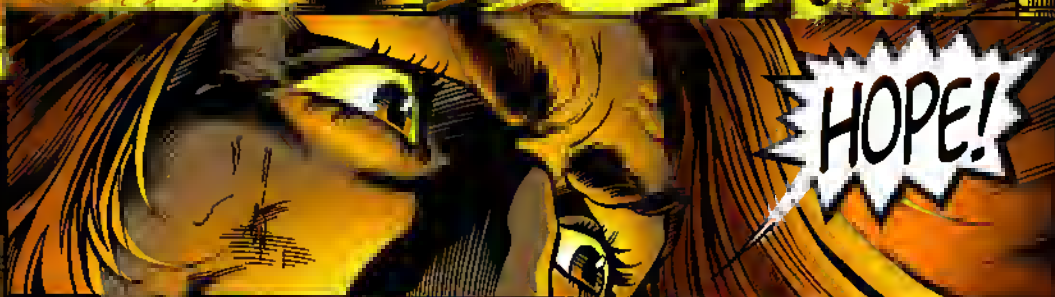
HOPE NO!



THIS IS **NO** TIME FOR REST!



UNNGH.



**HOPE!**



DEAR GOD--AN ELDRITCH DEMON! DON'T HURT ME--

OH, SHUT UP.

QUICKLY! GATHER YOURSELVES AROUND ME!

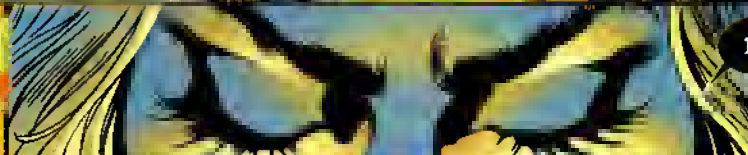
BUT--

DO IT NOW!





I'M  
HERE TO  
SAVE YOU,  
NOT HURT  
YOU!  
--AND  
FOR THE LAST  
TIME--!



I--



--AM  
NOT--



--ELDRITCH!



I AM  
HUMAN!

THE  
LORD IS MY  
SHEPHERD, I  
SHALL NOT  
WANT...

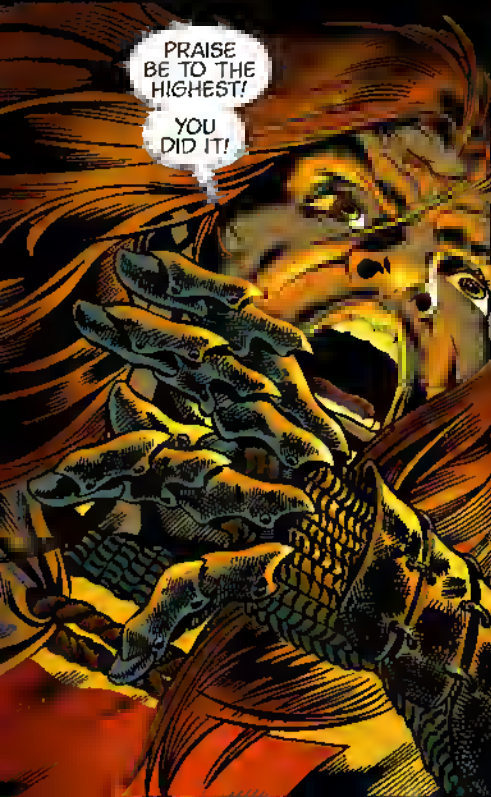


THIS WAY!

LOOK OUT! IT'S CAVING IN!

OH, NO.  
DID SHE--?  
CAN SHE--?

HOPE!



PRAISE BE TO THE HIGHEST!  
YOU DID IT!



THANK YOU FOR FINDING HELP FATHER!

IT APPEARS HENRY...



...THAT YOUR VILLAGE HAS FOUND A HERO

TO HELL WITH THEM ALL JACOB!





ARE YOU ALL WELL?

UH...UH. W-WE ARE FINE...

FORGIVE THEM THEIR IGNORANCE.

YOU MUST UNDERSTAND... YOU LOOK LIKE THE ENEMY.

I UNDERSTAND ALL TOO WELL



HOPE, PLEASE WAIT!

OH, IT'S YOU, MARGRET. HOW ARE THE WOUNDED?

THE ONES WE CAN SAVE, YOU MEAN? THEIR PROSPECTS ARE LOOKING BETTER.

YOU, ON THE OTHER HAND, ARE CLEARLY IN NEED OF HEALING...

I CAN TAKE CARE OF MYSELF.

YOU HAVE TO ACCEPT HELP WHEN IT'S FREELY OFFERED...

WE'RE NOT OUT TO GET YOU, HOPE.

WE'RE FAMILY.





THE  
SCARLET  
RIDERS!

QUICK!  
GET BEHIND  
ME!

READY  
YOUR  
BLADE!



SHNNNG



SHRANG



PEACE MIGHTY  
WARRIORS--



--WE WILL NO LONGER  
OPPOSE YOU.  
TO DO SO WOULD  
BE DISHONORABLE.

WE'VE  
BEEN GONE  
FROM OUR LANDS  
TOO LONG, AND WE  
FIND THE WEST...  
COMPLICATED.  
IT IS BEST  
WE GO.





WHEN NEXT WE MEET, PERHAPS IT WILL BE AS ALLIES!

THAT'S A PLEASANT TURNAROUND. SO-- WHERE DO WE STAND BROTHER?



I TAKE ISSUE WITH YOUR METHODS, BUT I CANNOT DISPUTE WHAT HAPPENED HERE. YOUR PROTEGE SAVED NOVGOROD.

I AM RETURNING TO THE CAPITAL. I'LL TROUBLE THE TWO OF YOU NO FURTHER.

I DON'T AGREE WITH YOUR WAYS, EITHER. MOTHER WOULD BE DISPLEASED AT THE WAY YOU SERVE GOD. MAY HE REST HER SOUL.



BUT I'VE HAD ENOUGH FIGHTING BETWEEN US.

WHAT WILL YOU TELL THE ARCHBISHOP?

THE TRUTH--YOUR DEMON FIGHTS FOR GOD.





--AND DID  
YA SEE? SHE  
TOOK ON THE  
LEADER  
HERSELF!

HER EYES...  
THEY'RE LIKE  
JEWELS.

AND HER  
HAIR? IT'S LIKE  
A WINTER  
WIND.

HERE'S TO  
DEATH!

**Lady Death!**

YOU DRINK  
TO HER?

IF SHE HAD  
NEVER BEEN BORN,  
THEN THE ELDRITCH  
WOULDN'T HAVE HAD  
A REASON TO COME  
BACK HERE!

SHE IS  
TO BLAME  
FOR ALL  
THIS!

CAN'T  
YOU SEE  
THAT?

UH--  
UH--

HENRY, HENRY,  
CALM DOWN,  
MAN!

THESE FINE PEOPLE  
HAVE DONE NOTHING  
TO YOU.

TO HELL  
WITH YOU TOO,  
WILLIAM!

**WHIMP**

IF YOU CAN'T BE PEACEABLE,  
I'LL HAVE TO ASK YOU TO LEAVE.

THEY DON'T  
SEE WHAT YOU  
SEE, HENRY.

THEY  
LACK THE  
VISION.

YOU CAN  
TURN THIS  
SITUATION  
AROUND,  
HENRY.

I HAVE  
**FRIENDS**  
YOU MUST  
MEET.

YES  
WHERE  
TO?

DUE  
NORTH.



GLAROND.

ERRGH!

AAAAA

LORD  
GARA MUST  
SUFFER GREAT  
AGONY TO CRY  
OUT SO!

THE PRICE  
OF BATTLING  
HUMANS, MY  
DEAR.

UNGH!  
THE ODOR!

A THOUSAND  
PARDONS, LORD,  
BUT IT IS THE  
SCREAMS--

--THEY'RE  
FRIGHTENING  
US...

AND WHEN  
YOU ARE AFRAID,  
YOU EMIT THAT  
INFERNAL GAS?

UH...  
YES.

ERRGGHH!

OH!



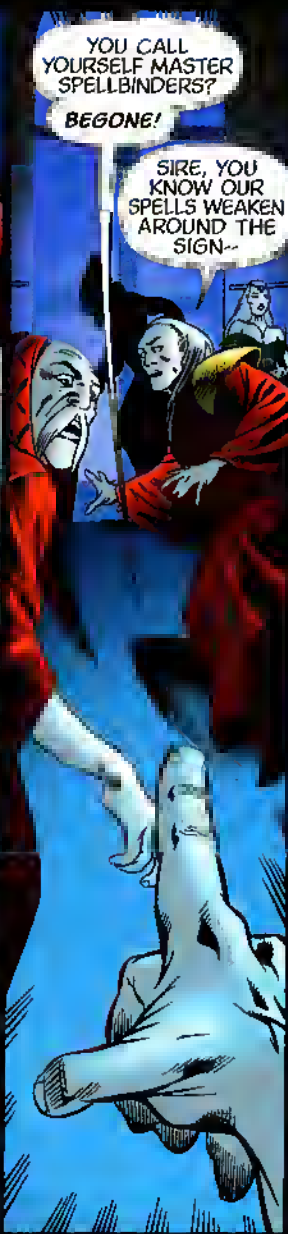


ENOUGH!  
LET ME  
SEE WHAT YOU'VE  
ACCOMPLISHED.



YOU CALL  
YOURSELF MASTER  
SPELLBINDERS?  
**BEGONE!**

SIRE, YOU  
KNOW OUR  
SPELLS WEAKEN  
AROUND THE  
SIGN--



OH!...  
OF THE  
CROSS.



WHAT DO  
YOU--!

OBSIDIA.

WHAT  
DO YOU  
WANT?







THORM GARA, I CAME TO INFORM YOU THAT YOUR SONS HAVE RETURNED FROM THE FIFTH CYCLE OF LUNAR ENCHANTMENTS. THEY WILL BE READY FOR PRESENTATION TO YOU SHORTLY.

OH.

DO YOU--FEEL PAIN?



HOW CAN I LEAD OUR PEOPLE SCARRED BY THE MOST HATED SYMBOL OF OUR ENEMY?!



LET ME AID YOU. THIS WILL MAKE IT DISAPPEAR.



WELL MASKED IF NOT GONE--YOU ARE *EVER* THE RESOURCEFUL ONE.



BUT THIS HEINOUS DEED SHALL **NOT** GO UNPUNISHED!

I SHALL RALLY THE ELDRITCH AND PREPARE FOR **FULL-SCALE WAR!**

**CRASH**



COME  
HERE, YOU  
FEISTY  
VIXEN!

YOU'RE FILLED  
WITH PISS AND  
VINEGAR TONIGHT,  
ARCHBISHOP--

I  
LIKE  
IT.



LET ME SPANK  
YOU, NAUGHTY  
BOY!

**KNOCK KNOCK**

WHO  
DARES?



THE POPE IS  
DISAPPOINTED IN  
YOU, HELMUT.

HE SAYS YOU ARE  
STINGY WITH YOUR  
OFFERINGS, WILLFUL  
IN YOUR DISRESPECT,  
WEAK IN YOUR  
FAITH--

--HE FEELS  
THAT YOU'VE  
OUTLIVED YOUR  
USEFULNESS TO  
OUR HOLY  
MISSION.

LEAVE,  
MISS.

OF  
COURSE,  
MILORD.

RIGHT  
AWAY.

WHAT DO YOU  
INTEND TO DO  
VITTORIO?





ROGER,  
STEW'S  
READY--COME  
FILL YOUR  
BELLY!

BE  
RIGHT  
THERE,  
PET.



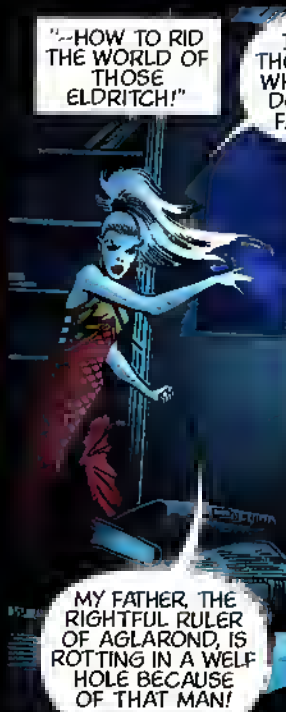
AAAAA



GNAAAAH!  
ON SECOND  
THOUGHT, I'M  
NOT SO HUNGRY  
ANYMORE...



NOW, THEN.  
THAT PROBLEM'S  
DONE WITH.  
LET'S GET  
DOWN TO THE  
LORD'S BUSINESS,  
SHALL WE--?



"--HOW TO RID  
THE WORLD OF  
THOSE  
ELDRITCH!"

I **HATE**  
THORM FOR  
WHAT HE'S  
DONE TO  
FATHER!

DO NOT  
SPEAK LIKE THAT,  
CAPRICE. THORM  
GARA IS OUR KING--  
IT IS HERESY!



MY FATHER, THE  
RIGHTFUL RULER  
OF AGLAROND, IS  
ROTTING IN A WELF  
HOLE BECAUSE  
OF THAT MAN!



THE NOBLES SAY THAT  
TVARUS IS IMPRISONED  
BECAUSE OF HIS LOVE OF  
HUMANITY. HE IS SOFT AND  
UNFIT TO LEAD US INTO  
THE FUTURE.



WHO  
DARES SPEAK TO  
ME THUS!



CAPRICE,  
PLEASE--

TARAN  
YOU'VE  
RETURNED

WHY  
HAVE YOU BEEN  
AVDIDING ME?  
DON'T YOU CARE  
ABOUT US?

DID YOU--  
DID YOU DO  
WELL IN YOUR  
BATTLE?

I **DID**.  
MANY HUMANS  
DIED BY MY  
SWORD.

HOW **NICE**.  
WHILE YOU  
PLAYED AT WAR,  
MY FATHER MAY  
HAVE SUFFERED  
A THOUSAND  
CENTURIES OF  
WAITING!

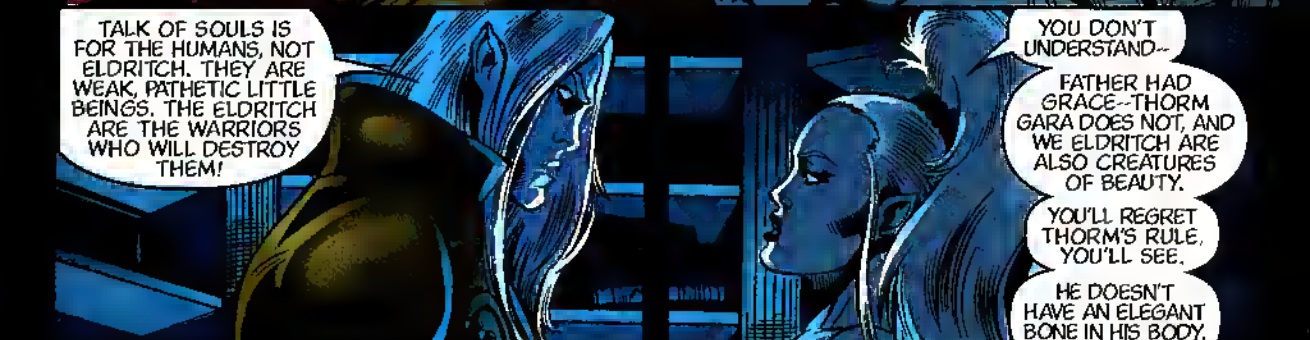




I'M  
SO LONELY  
WITHOUT  
MY FATHER,  
TARAN.

HE **CARED**  
FOR THE PAST IN  
A WAY NONE OF US  
DO. HIS STORIES WERE  
SO WARMING--IT WAS AS  
IF HE WERE SOMETHING  
MORE THAN ELDRITCH--  
AS IF HE HAD  
A SOUL.

CAPRICE!  
DON'T SPEAK  
THAT WAY! WHAT  
HAS GOTTEN  
INTO YOU?!




TALK OF SOULS IS  
FOR THE HUMANS, NOT  
ELDRITCH. THEY ARE  
WEAK, PATHETIC LITTLE  
BEINGS. THE ELDRITCH  
ARE THE WARRIORS  
WHO WILL DESTROY  
THEM!

YOU DON'T  
UNDERSTAND--

FATHER HAD  
GRACE--THORM  
GARA DOES NOT, AND  
WE ELDRITCH ARE  
ALSO CREATURES  
OF BEAUTY.

YOU'LL REGRET  
THORM'S RULE,  
YOU'LL SEE.

HE DOESN'T  
HAVE AN ELEGANT  
BONE IN HIS BODY.



YOU CAN'T TURN A BLIND  
EYE TO TVARUS' FAULTS--  
YOUR FATHER AND A HUMAN  
CONSORT CREATED A  
**HYBRID!**

I **SAW** HER.  
SHE **DEFEATED** THORM  
GARA IN SINGLE COMBAT!  
SHE CARRIED A DAGGER  
OF YOUR FATHER'S  
DESIGN!

SHE IS  
STRONGER THAN  
EITHER HUMAN OR  
ELDRITCH AND SHE  
WITHSTANDS THE  
TOUCH OF COLD  
IRON!

THORM GARA DID THE  
RIGHT THING IN EXPOSING  
YOUR FATHER!

**NO!**  
I'M DONE  
WITH YOU  
TARAN!



DUST.



THE  
MAN HAD NO  
WILLPOWER. NO  
DISCIPLINE.

ALL  
THAT WILL  
CHANGE  
NOW.

BISHOP VITTORIO. TO WHAT DO WE OWE  
THE PLEASURE OF YOUR COMPANY?

THE POPE HAS SENT  
ME. THE SHEER AMOUNT OF  
ELDRITCH ACTIVITY IN THE AREA  
DEMANDS LEADERSHIP WITH A  
MORE MILITARY BENT.

--AND  
HELMUT VON  
KRAKHAUER?

HE'S BEEN  
DISPOSED OF. DO  
YOU TAKE ISSUE  
WITH THAT?

I--  
NO.

WONDERFUL.  
I'VE HEARD SUCH  
GOOD THINGS  
ABOUT YOU, CAI.



SIR, I'VE JUST RETURNED  
FROM NOVGOROD WHERE  
WE DID BATTLE WITH  
ELDRITCH.

I HEARD  
YOU TRAPPED  
ONE IN THESE  
VERY HALLS. DID  
YOU KILL IT?

NOT PRECISELY,  
SIR. IT IS A WOMAN.  
SHE IS HALF-HUMAN AND  
HALF-ELDRITCH. SHE USED  
HER ELDRITCH WILES  
TO ESCAPE...

...THEN  
SHE WON THE BATTLE OF  
NOVGOROD...FOR OUR SIDE.

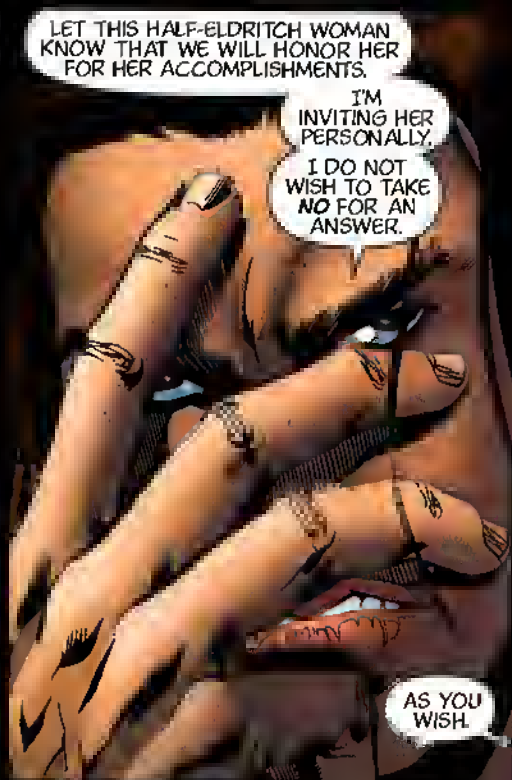




INTERESTING.  
THE SCARLET  
RIDERS. WHERE  
HAVE THEY  
GONE?

THEY'RE  
RETURNING TO  
THEIR HOMELANDS  
TO PRAY.

MONKS.  
I'LL NEVER  
UNDERSTAND  
THEIR LIKE.



LET THIS HALF-ELDRITCH WOMAN  
KNOW THAT WE WILL HONOR HER  
FOR HER ACCOMPLISHMENTS.

I'M  
INVITING HER  
PERSONALLY.  
I DO NOT  
WISH TO TAKE  
NO FOR AN  
ANSWER.

AS YOU  
WISH.

"WOLF, WHEN YOU FORGED BLACKHEART, WHY DID YOU  
SACRIFICE YOUR *OWN* BLADE IN MAKING MY *SWOR*?"



CHALLENGER WAS MY  
BLADE, TRUE, BUT I  
WASN'T THE SWORD'S  
FIRST OWNER, OR EVEN  
AMONG THE FIRST  
DOZEN.

IT WAS  
ONCE CALLED  
THE *SWOR* OF  
THE TRUSTED.

LET'S  
LET IT GO AT  
THAT.



THAT'S NO EXPLANATION,  
BUT I'LL RESPECT YOUR  
SILENCE.

WE DID  
WELL THIS DAY!  
NOVGOROD WILL  
ENDURE.

NOW...WE  
SLEEP.

MAMA  
CAN I STAY  
WITH AUNTIE  
HOPE?

DON'T IMPOSE,  
ISABELLE.

YOUR  
AUNT MUST BE  
EXHAUSTED.

IT'S NO  
IMPOSITION.  
I'D LOVE TO  
HAVE HER  
COMPANY.

YAAAY!

GOOD  
NIGHT, WOLF.  
WOLF?

Zzzzz







Brian  
**Dulido**  
Writer

Fabrizio  
**Florentino**  
Guest Penciler

Ted  
**Pertzborn**  
Guest Inker

Chris  
**Brythe**  
Colorist

Oscar  
**Gongora**  
Letterer

Barbara Kesel  
Editor

Ian M. Feller  
Managing Editor

Cover by  
Ivan Reis &  
Marc Campos

President/Chief Executive Officer & Publisher • Mark Alessi  
Senior Vice President/Chief Creative Officer • Gina M. Villa  
Vice President/Editing/Development • Barbara Kesel  
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Production Designers • Erin Hamaguchi & Randy Martin  
Production Assistants • Marisol Quintana & Ben Dunnington



## CREATOR QUIZ

## ON THE LAM

By Ian M. Feller

## CROSSCURRENTS

By Gina M. Villa

Last month I mentioned that I hoped to announce the next Code 6 project in this month's column. Well, I'm happy to say that I can. It's called **ABADAZAD**. Scheduled for a December release, **ABADAZAD** is created and written by **J.M. DeMatteis** (*Moonshadow*, *Spider-Man*) and features art by legend **Mike Ploog** (*The Life and Adventures of Santa Claus*, *The Monster of Frankenstein*, *Man-Thing*, *Ghost Rider*, *Weirdworld*). Yes, I did say Mike Ploog. Mike is coming out of his retirement from drawing comics to do this project — he's that enthusiastic about it. And any time a legend the likes of Mike Ploog is excited about a project, you have to stand up and take notice.

**ABADAZAD** is a contemporary fantasy that will appeal to both adults and children who are fans of *Oz*, *The Chronicles of Narnia* or *Harry Potter*. J.M. has long dreamed of writing this story and it's already showing in the work he's submitted. The story is at the same time funny, touching, and exciting. This will be a comic that you'll want to read, then save for your children. As J.M. put it in his original pitch, this is the type of comic that he can read with his eight-year-old daughter.

Beginning in present day, the story focuses on Kate, a teenage girl riddled with guilt over the disappearance of her brother five years prior. It then moves through the imaginary world of **Abadazad**, filled with rich characters and fantastic settings, where Kate learns the key to finding and rescuing the one thing she holds most dear. I won't say any more for fear of spoiling it for everyone. Trust me, if you cherish good stories, you'll love **ABADAZAD**. I personally can't wait for this bad boy to get started.

Asked by Bugaboo: **Does the conflict in the beginning of SOLUS #1 take place before Charon is cast into Negation Space?**

Barbara Kesel: "Nope. Issue #9 of **SOLUS** will shed a little more light on that battle."

Asked by Taltos: **Will Monchito from Negation ever get the spotlight or must he remain the plucky-yet-mysterious background character that we've grown to love?**

Tony Bedard: "Monchito will remain plucky-but-mysterious. Unless I change my mind."

Asked by Insanity: **Whose idea was it to name Altwal's other identity Ayden? I happened to notice last night that Ayden was hiding on Quin. Now I know this is not a big revelation. But my other question is...is this a tribute to actor Aidan Quinn, or just a coincidence?**

Ron Marz: "The honest answer is, I did get 'Ayden' from Aidan Quinn, because Aidan Quinn had a house in the area when I lived in upstate New York, and I always thought it was a cool name. And just as honestly, the 'Ayden Quin' thing was pure happenstance. I didn't realize it when I came up with both names. Maybe a Freudian slip?"

Even though it'll be almost Fall when you all read this, the end of Spring brought a lot of creative changes to the studio. Must've been something in the air that contributed to an urge for new beginnings. Or maybe it has something to do with the fact that folks sometimes have a need to stretch their wings and look around for new challenges — especially in our business. Whatever the reason, it's been a little like musical chairs around here as we shuffle people to projects that will not only be great for the books involved, but also get the creative juices flowing at full throttle. Everybody I've spoken to is really psyched by his (or her) new opportunity, and that's always a harbinger of great things on the horizon. It may be hard for you to believe, given how good these "guys" have been before, but I just know that we can all look forward to seeing even better things to come.

Firstly, **Ian Edginton**, fresh from his debut on **SOJOURN**, is taking the writing helm of **SCION** beginning with **Luke Ross'** first issue, #40. This will be one of our Key Issues, so if you know of anyone who hasn't yet jumped aboard the **SCION** bandwagon (I know...another thing that's hard to believe!) this is their perfect opportunity. On the colorist front, to take advantage of his Fine Arts training and painting background, we'll be seeing **Nick Bell**

working over **Steve Epting's** art on our new pirate launch, **EL CAZADOR**. **James Rochelle** will be picking up **ROUTE 666**, trading the weird environment of **NEGATION** for the equally weird, but different, environment of our popular horror book. Eisner-winner **Laura Martin** will lend her considerable talents to **NEGATION**, leaving **RUSE** to **Frank D'Armata**, her hand-picked successor, where he'll get a chance to strut his stuff for a whole different audience. Everyone is already hard at work on their new babies, so you'll be seeing the fruits of their labor before you know it! **Jim Cheung** and **Ian Edginton** are working together on Jim's next project after **SCION**, which will be a dark fantasy. More details will be forthcoming as things are finalized. And finally, we say goodbye to our own **Steve McNiven** as he turns his hand to drawing the super-heroes he grew up with. I've had a special interest and rapport with my fellow ex-teacher ever since he joined us way back in January of 2000. Steve was our first associate penciler and it's been my pleasure to watch his progress as he's become one of the best young artists on the scene today. I wish him the best as he tests the waters outside CrossGen, and look forward to the time when I'll be working with him again.

This month marks the release of two super-cool CGE titles. Coming from MYCreations is **DRAGON'S LAIR** and **SPACE ACE**, both based on the video games of amazing animator **Don Bluth**. Both feature art reminiscent of that seen in the hit video games from the '80s, and feature stories that, if you remember the games, will take you back to your youth. If you don't know these games, you'll love the comics for their fast-paced action and humor. MYCreations produces incredible work, as seen in their hit **MASTERS OF THE UNIVERSE** trade paperback that's available now, and they don't let up in these titles. Actually, I think these comics get even better. Look for them.

Here are some quick bits on titles to keep an eye out for. Out this month is **JOHN CARPENTER'S SNAKE PLISSKEN CNRONICLES #2**. The first issue was a huge hit, selling out around the country and garnering the attention of *Entertainment Weekly*, *The Washington Times*, *Starlog* and the national media. In September, the first Traveler-sized trade for **TNE CROSSOVERS** will be released. If you haven't been reading this series, this affordable package is your chance to see why comics writer **Peter David** likes this title. It includes a great sketchbook filled with the original designs for the characters in **TNE CROSSOVERS**. That alone is worth the price. Then in October, be on the look out for **MASTERS OF THE UNIVERSE: NE-MAN AND THE RISE OF THE SNAKE MEN #1**, the first issue of a three-issue mini-series that spotlights characters that will soon become a major part of the Ne-Man cartoon mythos. See it here first!



READ THIS!

### Recommended Good Read

by CrossGen Toy Technical Manager, Adam Vanwickler

*Wildcats Version 3.0*, published by Wildstorm

By Joe Casey, Dustin Nguyen, and Richard Friend  
\*suggested for Mature Readers

Who would've thought that a former Spandex-clad, X-Men clone super-team would make a great book if you ditch all but two of the original characters and turn the book into a commentary on modern corporations? Well, Joe Casey certainly did, and his writing on the book is at top form. The art by Dustin Nguyen blends a great sense of realism mixed with the fantastic. The book takes former android team leader Spartan (now Jack Marlowe) and makes him the head of Halo Inc., a corporation that hopes to change the world. One of its products for consumers is a battery that never dies. Obviously, this doesn't go down well with the rest of the corporate world, and it's up to Cole Cash (Gritter) to take care of all the corporate "dirty work." This book is a great read; I can't recommend it more. Just be warned that it's much more graphic in art and language than CrossGen fare.



## MATTHEW SMITH

### 1. What do you do for CGE?

I am the penciler on **THE PATH**.

### 2. Tell us about the project.

It's a samurai epic about a monk — Obo-san — who lost his belief in the gods when he saw them kill his brother. And if that's not enough, Obo-San's trying to overthrow the Emperor, who seems to have been possessed by some evil force. It's what we call a "feel-good" kind of book.

### 3. Favorite comics you read?

*100 Bullets*, *The Marquis*, *The Wretch*, *Alias*, and pretty much anything by Guy Davis, Paul Grist, or Sean Phillips.

### 4. Favorite ice cream flavor?

Any flavor covered in caramel sauce and whipped cream.

### 5. What type of car do you drive?

Until they make a Kharman Ghia that I can fit into, I'm forced to drive a Honda Accord.

### 6. Craziest convention experience?

Being cornered by a group of female *Starman* fans dressed as Klingons.

### 7. Caffeine or decaf?

What is this "decaf" you speak of?

### 8. ESPN or CNN?

BBC. America, that is.

### 9. Hobbies?

I read a lot, play the guitar, bite the heads off live chickens, and write.

### 10. Last good book you read?

A Doc Savage book called "The Deadly Dwarf." Before that was John LeCarre's "The Honourable Schoolboy," which was pretty good despite the disappointing lack of angry short people.

### 11. Favorite movie?

Terry Gilliam's "Brazil" is a personal favorite, but it's tied with "The Professional" and "Jaws" as the best movie of all time.

### 12. Influences on your work?

Guy Davis, Chris Bachalo, Eduardo Risso, Mark Chiarello, Kevin Nowlan, and Mike Mignola, as well as illustrators like J.C. Leyendecker and Walter Baumhoffer.

### 13. Where are you originally from?

I was born in San Francisco, but we moved around a lot when I was a kid. I've spent most of my adult life in Los Angeles and Albany, NY.

### 14. If you could invite any four people to dinner, who would they be?

British screenwriter Dennis Potter, magician James Randi, Doc Savage author Lester Dent, and someone really rich to pay the bill.

### 15. Music you listen to while you work?

I mainly listen to books on tape, but I've been known to slip a Go-Go's CD in from time to time.

### 16. Leave us with some words of wisdom.

If someone ever says "this milk smells lunny," don't taste it for them.